

CHICAGO RECEIVING TEN SUPER PORTABLE GENERATORS

by Sherman H. Skolnick

Chicago is set to receive ten super portable electric generators. Shipped from Canada, they are mounted on huge, low-boy flat-bed trucks, hurry-up scheduled to be received just before the end of December, 1999. They were ordered by Commonwealth Edison, the electric utility supplying power to Chicago and a large part of Illinois.

In public statements, Edison had previously announced they expect no computer glitch problems. Some offer, however, a possible less-than-sinister explanation. Edison has had serious power outages throughout 1999. This escalated to the point that in August, 1999, a large part of downtown Chicago was darkened for the better part of a day. Firemen had to carry down elderly office workers and some in wheelchairs from office towers forty stories high and more. Building owners apparently had no back-up generators, figuring, perhaps, that downtown power failure was unthinkable.

At the time, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley held a press conference. Highly agitated, what a downtown power failure means for Chicago as a business center, the Mayor condemned Edison management and engineers as being incompetent. (Many were shortly thereafter fired.) He said that Edison, which has a franchise agreement with the City, has to call in competent outside engineers to study the problem. The Mayor demanded quick replacement of the electric transmission facilities supplying the downtown. He pointed out that most of the equipment is 90 years old. [Cynics say equipment that has lasted that long must have been well built. And, besides which, it surely was designed to be operated WITHOUT COMPUTERS. The electric cables supplying much of downtown are more than 70 years old and may have deteriorated.]

The major owner of Commonwealth Edison has been the Vatican through a Dutch front, Robeco. As an absentee owner, many thousands of miles away, perhaps the Pope is not concerned whether Chicago, a major Catholic population center, does or does not have proper electric. [The Pope also owns the waterworks in Rome which has had numerous problems.] Just so a good dividend is paid on the electric company stock.

The Mayor, a devout Catholic, may be planning to compel the Pontiff to dump ownership of Edison onto a more local owner, such as municipal ownership. In 1987, Daley's predecessor, the city's first black Mayor, Harold Washington, was re-elected on a platform of bringing cheap electricity to the Windy City. Mayor Washington was planning not to re-new the city franchise with Edison then set to expire in 1989. Harold said he would take over Edison's fossil fuel generators located within the city, long since fully amortized, that is, paid for, and supply juice for as little as ten dollars per month for the average apartment.

Harold Washington said he found it unnecessary to use Edison's expensive to operate nuclear electric facilities, all located some distance from town. Before he could carry out his plan, Mayor Washington was murdered with a poison cup of coffee, the day before Thanksgiving, 1987. [Traditional Italian style from the Middle Ages?] I angered the monopoly press with my public statements, circulated through a recorded phone

message on a sizeable number of phone lines, giving specific details how the Mayor was murdered. My phone lines at one point were taking in more than 500 calls per hour. The phone company demanded I withdraw the message, claiming there was a huge back-up of as much as 30,000 calls waiting, and was going to cause phone circuit failure to the entire Southeast portion of Chicago where I reside. I refused, figuring if that happened it might force the media monsters to begin telling the truth about the murder.

The Vatican has owned several of the major nuclear electric facilities in the U.S., Commonwealth Edison, Florida Power, and a facility near the nation's capitol. This ownership is illegal, since the Atomic Energy Act forbids foreign powers to own nuclear facilities inside the U.S. An associate of mine had her power arbitrarily cut off by Edison as a reprisal, after she petitioned the Atomic Energy Commission to deny Edison a new license for an additional nuclear electric facility, since Edison was owned by the Vatican, a foreign power. The Vatican ownership became an issue in Court, and she won a sizeable settlement from Edison. Eight major buildings downtown Chicago reportedly are not concerned about any power black-out. Why? Well, they reportedly have "atomic pigs" secretly installed in a sub-basement. The compact, nuclear submarine-type mechanism is called "atomic pig" because it is mounted on legs in a room 20 by 20 by 20 feet. Occupants of the office buildings have NOT been informed, on the theory that they might be unnecessarily alarmed. Only a handful of nuclear engineers in the U.S. who installed these mechanisms, are aware of the construction details. The entrances to these sub-basement rooms are some of the best kept secrets in the nation.

[I have been talking about these "atomic pigs" since 1975 when I was given all the details by a former top technical advisor of the Pope who wanted the data publicized since these buildings were in a way competing with the Pope's electric company in Chicago. Also, I have pledged absolute secrecy of the identities of the nuclear engineers who confided details to me. Until recently, no one seemed interested in my comments on this.]

Cynics claim the Pope is inclined to put a curse on such buildings which dare stand in defiance of his company's electric services. Will he ex-communicate the owners if he finds they are members of his Church? Stay tuned.